24 है । इनमें से 9 पत्र तीन से छः महीनों की अवधि, 3 पत्र छः से नौ महीनों की अवधि, 7 पत्र नौ से बारह महीनों की अवधि और 5 पत्र एक वर्ष की अवधि से लम्बित पडे हैं ।

(ख) विभिन्न संगठनों से सामग्री सूचना एकत्र करने में लगे समय के कारण उत्तर देने में विलम्ब हुआ है । यह सुनिश्चित करने के लिए कि उत्तर तुरन्त दिए जाएं, संसद सदस्यों से प्राप्त पत्रों के निपटान के लिए कार्यालय पद्धति मैनुअल में निर्धारित अनुदेशों का कड़ाई से पालन किया जाता है ।

**Change in US policy of arms aid to Pakistan**

848. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD :
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any notable change has been observed by Government following the induction of the newly elected democratic Government in Pakistan headed by Ms. Banazir Bhutto, in the matter of proposed US arms aid to Pakistan ; and

(b) if so, what is Government's information about the previous plan of the US arms supply to Pakistan and the reduction, if any, noted in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Efforts to eliminate apartheid from South Africa**

849. SHRI MAHENDARA PRASAD :
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state what specific steps have been taken by Government through various international forums and diplomatic channels to being pressure to bear on the South African regime to give up their policy of apartheid during the last three months and with what results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF. K.K. TEWARI) : India is one of the members of the Commonwealth Committee of Foreign Ministers on Southern Africa which met in Harare from February 6-8, 1989 in its third meeting in accordance with its mandate given by the Commonwealth Heads of Government under the Okanagan Statement and Programme of Action agreed to in Vancouver in 1987. The committee reviewed actions to intensify and tighten sanctions against South Africa, in particular the strengthening and widening of the arms embargo. It decided to intensify efforts to curtail South Africa's links with international financial institutions and to pursuade countries which had not already done so to cut trade links with South Africa. The actions of the South African regime to destabilise the Front Line states were also reviewed.

Recently Government hosted the fourth meeting of senior officials of the Africa Fund Committee in New Delhi to pursue concrete measures of assistance to the Front line states and to the South African liberation movements.